AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

In the Claims:

Claims 1 to 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (Previously withdrawn) An aerosol composition for delivery of a therapeutic agent to the pulmonary system of a host comprising:

an aerosolized aqueous solution containing a derivative of the therapeutic agent, the derivative comprising the therapeutic agent and a reactive group which has the ability to react *in vivo* with an amino group, hydroxyl group or thiol group on a pulmonary or blood component to form a stable covalent bond.

Claim 13 (Previously withdrawn) The aerosol composition of claim 12 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 14 (Previously withdrawn) The aerosol composition of claim 12 wherein said modified therapeutic agent is 2.5-10% by weight.

Claim 15 (Previously withdrawn) The aerosol composition of claim 12 wherein said therapeutic agent an anti-histamine.

Claim 16 (Previously withdrawn) The aerosol composition of claim 15 wherein said therapeutic agent is loratidine.

Claim 17 (Previously withdrawn) The aerosol composition of claim 15 wherein said therapeutic agent is cetirizine.

Claim 18 (Previously withdrawn) A particulate formulation for delivery of a therapeutic agent to the pulmonary system of a host comprising:

a dispersable dry powder containing a modified therapeutic agent, the modified therapeutic agent comprising the therapeutic agent and a reactive group which has the ability to react *in vivo* with an amino group, hydroxyl group or thiol group on a pulmonary or blood component to form a stable covalent bond.

Claim 19 (Previously withdrawn) The particulate formulation of claim 18 wherein at least 50% of the dry powder is in the form of particles having a diameter of 10 um or less.

Claim 20 (Previously withdrawn) The particulate formulation of claim 18 wherein said therapeutic agent is an anti-histamine.

Claim 21 (Previously withdrawn) The particulate formulation of claim 20 wherein said therapeutic agent is loratidine.

Claim 22 (Previously withdrawn) The particulate formulation of claim 20 wherein said therapeutic agent is cetirizine.

Claim 23 (Currently amended) A method of delivering a therapeutic agent to a host comprising the steps of:

obtaining a modified therapeutic agent, the modified therapeutic agent comprising the therapeutic agent and a reactive group which ~~has the ability to~~ reacts *in vivo* with an amino group, hydroxyl group or thiol group on a fixed pulmonary ~~or blood~~ component to form a stable covalent bond; and

administering the modified therapeutic agent to the pulmonary system of the host, wherein said therapeutic agent covalently bonds to the fixed pulmonary component and is not transferred to the vascular system.

Claim 24 (original) The method of claim 23 wherein said administering step further comprises the steps of aerosolizing the modified therapeutic agent for inhalation by the host.

Claim 25 (original) The method of claim 23 wherein said administering step further comprises the steps of dispersing a dry formulation of the modified therapeutic agent for inhalation by the host.

Claim 26 (original) The method of claim 23 wherein said administering step further comprises the steps of instilling the modified therapeutic agent into the pulmonary system of the host.

Claim 27 (original) The method of claim 23 wherein said reactive group is a succinimidyl or a maleimido group.

Claims 28-31 (Canceled)

Claim 32 (original) The method of claim 23 wherein said reactive group is a maleimido group which is reactive with a thiol group on human serum albumin.

Claim 33 (original) The method of claim 23 wherein said therapeutic agent is an anti-histamine.

Claim 34 (original) The method of claim 33 wherein said therapeutic agent is loratidine.

Claim 35 (original) The method of claim 33 wherein said therapeutic agent is cetirizine.

Claims 36 to 55 (canceled)

Claim 56 (Previously withdrawn) An aerosol composition for delivery of a therapeutic agent to the pulmonary system of a host comprising an aerosolized aqueous solution containing a

modified therapeutic agent conjugated to apulmonary or blood component; the modified therapeutic agent comprising the therapeutic agent and a reactive group that has reacted with an amino group, hydroxyl group or thiol group on a pulmonary or blood component and formed a stable covalent bond.

Claim 57 (Previously withdrawn) The aerosol composition of claim 56 wherein said blood component is albumin.

Claim 58 (Previously withdrawn) The aerosol composition of claim 56 wherein said therapeutic agent an anti-histamine.

Claim 59 (Previously withdrawn) The aerosol composition of claim 56 wherein said therapeutic agent is loratidine.

Claim 60 (Previously withdrawn) The aerosol composition of claim 56 wherein said therapeutic agent is cetirizine.

Claim 61 (Previously withdrawn) A particulate formulation for delivery of a therapeutic agent to the pulmonary system of a host comprising:

a dispersable dry powder containing a modified therapeutic agent conjugated to a pulmonary or blood component, the modified therapeutic agent comprising the therapeutic agent and a reactive group that has reacted with an amino group, hydroxyl group or thiol group on a pulmonary or blood component and formed a stable covalent bond.

Claim 62 (Previously withdrawn) The particulate formulation of claim 61 wherein said blood component is albumin.

Claim 63 (Previously withdrawn) The particulate formulation of claim 61 wherein said therapeutic agent is an anti-histamine.

Claim 64 (Previously withdrawn) The particulate formulation of claim 61 wherein said therapeutic agent is loratidine.

Claim 65 (Previously withdrawn) The particulate formulation of claim 61 wherein said therapeutic agent is cetirizine.

Claim 66 (Currently amended) A method of delivering a therapeutic agent to a host comprising the steps of:

obtaining a conjugate of the therapeutic agent, the conjugate comprising a derivative of the therapeutic agent covalently bonded to ~~a pulmonary or blood component, the derivative of the therapeutic agent comprising the therapeutic agent having a reactive group able to react with~~ an amino group, hydroxyl group or thiol group on ~~the~~ a pulmonary ~~or blood~~ component ~~to form a stable covalent bond~~; and

administering the conjugate to the pulmonary system of the host, wherein said conjugate is not transferred to the vascular system.

Claim 67 (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 wherein said administering step further comprises the steps of aerosolizing the conjugate of the therapeutic agent for inhalation by the host.

Claim 68 (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 wherein said administering step further comprises the steps of dispersing a dry formulation of the conjugate of the therapeutic agent for inhalation by the host.

Claim 69 (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 wherein said administering step further comprises the steps of instilling the conjugate of the therapeutic agent into the pulmonary system of the host.

Claim 70 (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 wherein said reactive group is a succinimidyl or a maleimido group.

Claim 71 (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 wherein said reactive group is a maleimido group which is reactive with a thiol group on a pulmonary component.

Claim 72 (Canceled)

Claim 73 (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 wherein said therapeutic agent is an anti-histamine.

Claim 74 (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 wherein said therapeutic agent is loratidine.

Claim 75 (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 wherein said therapeutic agent is cetirizine.